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Implementation of Road Safety Guidelines

3772. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken by Government to implement the road safety guidelines issued by the Supreme Court of India for safety and security of the school going children "The future of the country"; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) B.C. KHANDURI): (a) and (b) Government of India have amended the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 in August, 2000 to bring the buses run by the Educational Institutions within the purview of the Act by requiring them to obtain permits. Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have also notified guidelines *vide* their notification dated 22nd June, 1998.

Fund for development for SSI

†3773. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have established any fund at national level in order to provide loan to develop technology for extension and development of small industries in the country before announcing the removal of certain restrictions on imports; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and if so, the initial amount of this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) Perhaps, the reference is to the Scheme of Credit Linked Capital Subsidy for Technology Upgradation for the small scale industrial sector which has been launched by the Government in October, 2000. The Scheme provides for back ended capital subsidy to the extent of 12% in select products/sub-sectors for known proven technologies. SIDBI is the nodal agency for operation of the Scheme being operationalized through scheduled commercial banks/NSIC. An initial sum of Rs. 5 crore, as an advance, has been made available to SIDBI to commence the Scheme.

Declining SSI

†3774. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES AND AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the country witnessed a decline in the development and expansion of the small scale industry section in the country during the nineties, as compared to those of during the eighties;

(b) if not, the details of the assessment as regards annual production value, creations of additional employment opportunities in the small scale industry sector during the eighties as well as nineties; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.